

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 AID-05 ACDA-10 PC-05 /098 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9091

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOWHFEEP

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 4821

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, ET

SUBJECT: PMAC FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES THE NATION/
SUMMARY

SUMMARY: PMAC FIRST VICE HHAIRMAN, MAJOR MENGISTU HAILE-MARIAM MADAUHS FIRST NATIONWIDE SPEECH APRIL 21 ON ETHIOPIAN RADIO AND TV. HE RECOUNTED PAST EFFORTS BY FOREIGN IMPERIALISTS TO INTERFERE IN ETHIOPIAN AFFAIRS AND URGED PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS TO JOIN FORCES TO COMBAT IMPERIALISTS FROM OUTSIDE WHO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO DIVIDE COUNTRY AND DISRUPT ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION. HE LISTED PMAC'S PROGRESSIVE PROGRAMS SINCE BEIINNING OF THE REVOLUTION AND ANNOUNCED OUTLINE OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

1. PMAC FIST VICE CHAIRMAN CJOR MENGISTU ABCRESSED

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NATION APRIL 21 ON RADIO AND TV. THIS WAS FIRST SUCH

APPEARANCE BY MENGISTU. IN RAPID 30 MINUTE ADDRESS, MENGISTU RECOUNTED NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS BY FOREIGN IMPERIALISTS TO SUBJUGATE ETHIOPIA. HE PARTICULARLY SINGLED OUT ITALIAN EFFORTS AND DWELLED AT LENGTH ON FORMER MONARCHS' EFFORTS (BOTH MENELIK AND HAILE SELASSIE) TO IMPOSE THEIR FEUDAL SYSTEM ON THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLES.

2. HE NOTED THAT IMPERIALISM USES VARIOUS TECHNIQUES, OFTEN INFILTRATING IN THE GUISE OF (A) MISSIONARIES; (B) TEACHERS (C) MERCHANTS AND ENTREPRENEURS; AND (D) GOVERNMENT ADVISERS, EXPERTS, ETC.

3. HE THEN LISTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE REVOLUTION WHICH INCLUDE: DEPOSITION OF EMPEROR; DECLARATION OF SOCIALISM; NATIONALIZATION OF MEANS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION: RURAL LAND, URBAN LAND AND EXTRA HOUSES; PROCLAMATION OF NEW LABOR LAW; FORMATION OF PEASANT ASSOCIATION.

4. HE ANNOUNCED THAT ETHIOPIA WOULD ESTABLISH ASAP A PARTY OF THE WORKING CLASS AND FOLLOW SCIENTIFIC SOCIALIST PATH TO FORMATION OF A PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

5. MENGISTU ALSO GAVE OUTLINE OF NEW NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY PROGRAM WHICH IS DESIGNED TO LIBERATE MASSES FROM IMPERIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND FEUDALISM, GRANT DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS TO FRIENDS OF THE REVOLUTION AND ASSIST IN PROVIDING DEMOCRATIC SOLUTIONS TO QUESTIONS OF NATIONALITIES, RELIGION, SEC, AND THE LIKE.

6. MENGISTU THEN ADDRESSED ERITREAN PROBLEM AND ACCUSED EXILED ARISTOCRATS AND FOREIGN IMPERIALISTS OF HELPING RE-ACTIONARY BANDITS THERE, PROMISING LATER ADDRESS ON QUESTION OF ERITREA.

7. FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN DWELT AT LENGTH ON PROBLEM CREATED BY REACTIONARIES AND FEUDALISTS IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE AND URGED PROGRESSIVE WORKERS, ETC. TO FORM A UNITED FRONT AND TAKE ACTION AGAINST ANTI-REVOLUTIONARIES. HE TOLD NATION'S PROGRESSIVES TO COOPERATE IN THE STRUGGLE BECAUSE THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ENVIRONMENT IS INIMICAL TO ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION; THAT STRONG SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA WOULD PLEASE ONLY A FEW IN EAST AFRICA; REACTIONARIES ABROAD AND THEIR IMPERIALIST AND CLEAN ALLIES IN ETHIOPIA ARE "DIGGING GRAVES FOR US"; AND ETHIOPIA IS A COUNTRY OF MANY OPPRESSED PEOPLE AND FEW PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS.

8. FULL TEXT OF SPEECH WILL BE POUCHED TO AF/E. COMMENTS TO FOLLOW IN SEPTTEL.

HUMMEL

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